

Sunday September 8, 2013

Genesis #21 Recorded 5/20/15

Aired 5/31/15

"The Consequences of Sin"

Genesis 3:17-19

Introduction: In our study of the book of Genesis we have been looking at the entrance of sin into the world in which we live in. As I have said week after week this is one of if not the most important chapter in the Bible. Within this chapter we find the entrance of sin into the world and also the consequences which came with that sin.

Now it is within those consequences we can understand exactly why life is the way it is today. All the suffering in the world today is a result of the sin that was committed in the garden by Adam and Eve.

Now for the past several weeks we have looked at the curse which came as a result of sin and we have looked at 2 parts of the curse:

1. The curse on the serpent.

The curse on the serpent is the source of all spiritual warfare today.

Notice Genesis 3:15

¹⁵ And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

God had announced that from the woman would be born a Man who would eventually destroy Satan. That Man would be Jesus Christ and Satan's destruction is coming at a later date when Satan will be cast into the lake of fire forever. Today Satan is doing all he can to lead people in rebellion against God. He is working overtime to gather an army to fight against Jesus Christ when He returns one day to set up His Kingdom.

Those who are believers stand in the way of the plan of Satan and so we have spiritual warfare as Satan is doing his best to keep us from sharing the Gospel which will set people free from the power of Satan.

Ephesians 6:11-12

¹¹ Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

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¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

2. The curse on the woman.

Notice Genesis 3:16

¹⁶ Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

God said He would multiply her sorrow in 2 areas of her life. They would be the areas where she would seek to find her greatest pleasure and enjoyment, with her children and her husband.

She would still have joy with her children and with her husband but not to the extent which God originally intended. But in those 2 areas she would feel her greatest pain and sorrow. Her conception would be multiplied to keep up with the death rate and through her relationship with her children she would feel terrible pain.

Then in the midst of that pain she would desire comfort from her husband which he could not provide.

Application:

I want to use this for a moment to give a heads-up to all young girls who plan to marry. There will be pain in your life and you will need a man who is controlled by the Holy Spirit because it will only be in his relationship with God that he can give you the comfort you desire. So you better be very selective in your choosing. A man who is not saved will most likely add to the pain you feel.

The woman would also desire to rule her husband and he will rule over her which will cause within the family a major conflict. So for the woman her life would be marked by sorrow.

Illustration:

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I found some information that will bring all of this right into where you can see the results of the curse.

Queen Anne of Great Britain was born in 1655 and she died in 1714 she lived to be 59 years old. In her life she was pregnant 17 times. She had 6 miscarriages, 6 of her children were still born, which leaves 5 children who lived.

1. Mary - she died at 19 months of small pox.
2. Anne Sophia - she lived only 8 months.
3. Prince William - he lived to the age of 11.
4. Mary - she lived 2 hours.
5. George - he lived only a few minutes.

Out of 17 pregnancies none of her children made it to the teenage years.

I. The Curse on the Man

Notice Genesis 3:17

There are several points we need to see here:

- 1. The curse on the man was also directly related to his sin.**

We are told here what we are not told in **Genesis 3:6**. We see that Eve talked him into taking the forbidden fruit. He decided he would listen to her voice instead of the Word of God.

Application:

I need to stop here and make an application for our lives. **Men there are times we need to heed the advice of our wives. There are times they have a better view of things than what we have and their advice can save us from making a major mistake.**

But we must never allow our wives to convince us to do anything that is disobedience to the Word of God. Now, you mark it down that Satan will use your wife sometime in an attempt to get you to compromise. There are 2 reasons why he uses her if possible:

- a. It is harder to say no to the person who is closest to you.**

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- b. It may **seem** more peaceful to just go with her idea. To stand against her may cause you to sleep on the sofa for a while.

Many men have fallen to sin due to the enticing words of a woman.

Let's get back to the verse.

Adam took the forbidden fruit from his wife and he freely ate it. Now the very ground that he was to eat freely of would be cursed and from that day forward he would have to work the ground to get his food.

Now the idea here is that the man would struggle in his work place. The woman would struggle in her divinely appointed area which is the home and the man would struggle in his divinely appointed area which is his work place.

2. The curse on the man also would involve sorrow.

Notice Genesis 3:17

The man would eat of the ground in sorrow all the days of his life. That meant that the man would never find perfect peace and contentment in his place of work. He would have to go to work every day in order to provide for his family and there would be times he would not feel like going. There would be times when his work would be monotonous. He would get tired of working but in order to survive he would need to continue to work.

Now, someone may be thinking about how some people today are not working but they are able to survive. That is true but somewhere there is someone working who work is helping to provide for their needs.

Before the fall Adam could just walk through the garden and pick that which he desired to eat: his food was easily accessible. Now he would need to expend energy and as he did so he would grow tired and eventually his body would wear out. If we notice closely we are told he would do this all the days of his life.

Now, we complain because we have to work until we are 65 to retire. Some people live for the day they will retire. Let me show you something about Adam.

Genesis 5:5

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⁵ *And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years: and he died.*

Adam would work over 900 years and everyday it would take effort just to provide for his family. So when you and I have to work for 65 or 70 years we have nothing to complain about.

This is why life is such a struggle.

Let me put some thoughts together here: you get up in the morning and you go to work and there the day seems to drag and you just wish you could find something better. Then the boss seems to have a chip on his shoulder toward you and so you live on the edge wondering if he will fire you. You come home and your wife has had to deal with the little sinners she gave birth to and they have been driving her up the wall. She needs some comfort but you are so tired from work you just want to rest. She then desires to rule over you and she orders you to do this and that and you decide you will not do it tonight and you stand up to her. There is then a clash and you find yourself wanting to go back to work. It goes on week after week. You just want to get enough money to quit your job and then you think it would all be better. Wrong! It is the curse and you cannot escape it.

Notice Genesis 3:18

Before the entrance of sin into the world there were no thorns or thistles. These are a result of the curse upon the earth.

Let me explain how we know the accuracy of this verse. If you decide you are going to plow up some ground for a garden and you get busy after it is plowed have you ever noticed what grows? It is nothing you can eat. It is weeds. In order to have a garden you must work the ground and pull the weeds. Before the curse none of the weeds existed and so everything that grew was good.

So, in order to survive today there are people that are always working the ground in order to provide what we need for our lives.

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Notice Genesis 3:19

It will always be a struggle to provide for your family. We were made from dust, we will work in the dust, and when life is over we will return to the dust.

Let me show you the words of Solomon.

Ecclesiastes 2:10-11

¹⁰ And whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them, I withheld not my heart from any joy; for my heart rejoiced in all my labour: and this was my portion of all my labour.

¹¹ Then I looked on all the works that my hands had wrought, and on the labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun.

Ecclesiastes 2:17-19

¹⁷ Therefore I hated life; because the work that is wrought under the sun is grievous unto me: for all is vanity and vexation of spirit.

¹⁸ Yea, I hated all my labour which I had taken under the sun: because I should leave it unto the man that shall be after me.

¹⁹ And who knoweth whether he shall be a wise man or a fool? yet shall he have rule over all my labour wherein I have laboured, and wherein I have shewed myself wise under the sun. This is also vanity.

Conclusion:

So what is the solution to this struggle?

Notice Genesis 3:17

The ground is cursed for the sake of man. That means you cannot find lasting satisfaction in your work and you cannot find lasting enjoyment in your work. Some men think they need a different job and then it would be better. Some men think they need a different wife and that would fix everything.

Let me give you some advice:

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1. All work is part of the curse and so you will never find lasting satisfaction in any position you hold.
2. All woman are under the curse so don't think that a new woman will be better than you wife.

The curse is designed to drive you to Jesus Christ. It is only in Him that you will find lasting joy and satisfaction.

John 10:10b

I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

That is what the world is seeking; the abundant life. So you must come to Christ in order to have the joy and contentment you are looking for.

Then you need to surrender to the vocation which God has given to you. There is peace in surrender. When you learn to accept that God has given you that job and it is His will for you to be there, you will see the curse will be softened.

Colossians 3:22-23

²² *Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God;*

²³ *And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;*

²⁴ *Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.*

Go to work and work as though you are working for the Lord because really you are.

You see your work place is the platform God has given to you to make Jesus known through your life.

2 Corinthians 4:11

¹¹ *For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.*

If you do nothing but complain you are no different than the worldly person and you will struggle under the curse all of your life.